



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
WORK STUDY SESSION
CITY HALL KIVA
3939 DRINKWATER BOULEVARD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2010**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Robert Frost, Chair
Jeanne Alspaugh, Vice Chair
John Faramelli, Commissioner
Ron King, Commissioner
Stan Koczka, Commissioner
Harry Schlegelmilch, Commissioner

ABSENT: James Duchene, Commissioner

STAFF: Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director
Tim Barnard, Parks and Recreation Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

3. WORK STUDY SESSION – Master Plan

Tim Barnard explained that the original master plan was completed in 2004 and that the information used for that plan was collected using telephone surveys and interviews of Scottsdale's citizenry and that today's meeting was to discuss what has happened since that date. He also explained that the 2004 plan was not brought before the City Council, but it was/is used when making plans/recommendations.

Tim Barnard explained that Scottsdale traditionally relies on bond elections to fund projects and that there are several projects from Bond 2000 that are still unfunded. Six projects did not get funded from the 2004 Master Plan. City is now facing ADA compliance, health and safety, and aging facilities (some as old as 30 years).

Although the nomenclature in the amendment has undergone city management changes, projects have not been added or deleted.

Commissioner Faramelli expressed his belief that it is essential to do an updated Master Plan. Tim Barnard suggested that we do not want to forget the projects that are in the current Master Plan that were not yet funded, and that maybe a new plan could be compared against the old plan.

Commissioner Koczka questioned whether or not the need for the unaccomplished projects might have changed since the time the Master Plan was done and whether or not the citizens in those areas still want the same things.

Commissioner King stated that since the plan was done six years ago, he would like to see another citizen participation survey.

Jan Cameron agreed that since that time, lifestyles have changed, demographics have changed and that it is critical to take these things into consideration.

Chair Frost expressed doubts about using the LEED Gold standard for City buildings, saying they require equipment that costs more to buy and maintain, and which has not been tested in a park facility. He felt the building could still be environmentally sensitive without having to meet LEED standards. Commissioner Faramelli disagreed, and requested that Anthony Floyd be invited to answer the Commission's questions regarding LEED before any decision is made. Commissioner Koczka said Arizona should be leading in areas like water conservation, and suggested that another standard might be more appropriate for park buildings.

Commissioner Faramelli felt the Master Plan should consider other options for financing infrastructure and capital improvements. Years ago, the City should have started attaching development fees for parks and recreation, but now that the city is almost fully built, that will not help much. There should be another mechanism for financing capital improvements other than bond elections. Mr. Barnard noted that as the city builds out and the needs of older neighborhoods change, parks might need to be modified to better serve them. Commissioner Faramelli said details can be sorted out later, but currently, the key issue is finding money for the projects.

Chair Frost said some communities are relying on friends organizations to raise donations for capital improvements. Ms. Cameron noted that the Mechanical Society has been so successful in raising money, that they are even looking into helping more than just the Railroad Park.

Mr. Barnard said Staff would like to propose the formal closing of the 2004 Master Plan, which would give impetus to creating a new Master Plan. Chair Frost rejected use of the term "nice to have" in the report. Projects that have been approved by the citizens of Scottsdale are desirable community amenities. Commissioner Schlegelmilch inquired

about the cost of reviewing the Master Plan. Mr. Barnard said it might cost from \$25,000 to \$50,000 to hire an outside group to conduct a study and put together a plan. Some of that work can be done in-house, because Staff has more expertise now. The proposed bond effort for Parks and Recreation totals between \$115 million and \$120 million. About \$340 million worth of projects have been proposed from all departments, but the City cannot afford to take on that much debt.

In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Faramelli, Ms. Cameron explained that the Budget Review Commission has been tasked with establishing how much debt the City can afford and determining the structure of the bond program. The process has been slowed by the multiple changes in Finance staffing. Commissioner Faramelli proposed the Commission work more closely with other boards and commissions that are supportive of the bond initiative.

Commissioner Koczka noted that the City was unable to complete some projects that voters approved in Bond 2000. If another bond goes forward, and those projects are not included near the top of that list, the stakeholders may object. Chair Frost said a Citizen's Bond Commission would be formed as part of the bond process to determine project priorities. The Commission has to find ways to ensure that projects that do not get included in the bond somehow get funded.

4. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the study session adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.

Meets established criteria,
Janice M. Cameron
Director, Parks and Recreation